



## **Wilfred Booth**

### **1894 – 1916**

Wilfred was born in Dewsbury in 1894. His father was Matthew Booth, a Stationary Engineman born in Batley Carr in 1857 and died in 1914. His mother was Sarah (née Lord) born in Dewsbury Moor in 1861 and died in 1938. They were married at Dewsbury Trinity Congregational Church on 5<sup>th</sup> December 1891.

Their other children were; James Harry, born in 1892 and died in 1892, Percy, born in 1893, George, born in 1896 and served in World War 1, Florence, born in 1899 and Maud, born in 1901 and died in 1910.

On the 1901 Census the family lived at 98, Boothroyd Lane, Dewsbury and in 1911 at 37, Scargill Street, Eightlands, Dewsbury.

Wilfred was a single man who was connected with St. Matthew's Church in Westtown and worked for Messrs Wilman Brothers, Shoddy Manufacturers.

He was a pre-war Territorial for four years and enlisted at the outbreak of war serving as Private 2213 in the 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry rising to the Rank of Lance Corporal and was sent to the Western Front in early July 1915. He was killed in action on 7<sup>th</sup> July 1916 during the Battle of the Somme. His remains were never identified for burial and so he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing of the Somme. Wilfred was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20<sup>th</sup> March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916. The memorial also serves as an Anglo-French Battle Memorial in recognition of the joint nature of the 1916 offensive and a small cemetery containing equal numbers of Commonwealth and French graves lies at the foot of the memorial.

Wilfred is commemorated on the Dewsbury Cenotaph in Crow Nest Park and in the Dewsbury Roll of Honour kept in Dewsbury Central Library and on the Memorial Plaque in the porch of the now closed St. Matthew's Church, Westtown.

In Memory of

Private

## Wilfred Booth

2213, 1st/4th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry who died on 07 July 1916 Age 21

Son of Matthew and Sarah Booth, of 37, Scargill St., Eightland, Dewsbury, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour

Thiepval Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

